Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 8 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Above the maximum fuel level 14, there is an expansion volume so that heating and expansion of the fuel in the tank will not result in an overflow and discharge of fuel through the filler neck 12 even when the tank has been filled to the maximum fuel level 14. But also this expansion volume must be vented since in this expansion volume a gas mixture of air and fuel vapors is formed whose pressure could rise to substantial values with high ambient temperatures. In order to prevent such rise in pressure, an ~~operation~~ operating vent system is provided which includes three operating vent lines 24, 26 and 28. The openings of the vent lines 24, 26 and 28 are arranged each immediately below the upper wall 30 of the fuel tank 10 and are each provided with a float valve 32. The open ends of the ~~operation~~ operating vent lines 24, 26 and 28 are so arranged in the fuel tank that appropriate venting of the expansion volume is provided under any circumstances, that is, when the vehicle negotiates a curve or is in an inclined position. With the float valves 32 fuel flow into the vent lines 24, 26, and 28 is prevented when the vehicle negotiates a curve or is in an inclined position. By providing float valves 32 in the operating vent lines 24, 26 and 28, sections of the vent lines may extend through areas below the maximum fill level 14 and these sections will not be filled with fuel.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 31 with the following rewritten paragraph:

When the fuel in the fuel tank 10 has reached the maximum fill level 14, the float valve 18 blocks the communication between the fuel tank 10 and the fill vent line 16. With further filling of the fuel tank 10, venting could occur however by way of the ~~operation~~ operating vent lines 24, 26, and 28. To prevent this, the float valve 18 includes means for blocking the vent lines 24, 26, and 28. Within the float valve 18, the operating vent lines 24, 26 and 28 are in communication with the fill vent line 16 and this communication remains open even when an opening of the fill vent line 16 in the fuel tank 10 is closed by the float valve 18.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 8 with the following rewritten paragraph:

For blocking the ~~operation~~ operating vent lines 24, 26 and 28 during the refueling of the fuel tank 10, a sensor 38 coupled with a so-called lead free control flap 36 is provided in a filler neck head 34. When a refueling nozzle is inserted into the filler neck head 34, the lead-free fuel flap 36 is pivoted open which movement is sensed by the sensor 38 which then supplies a signal, to a control block 42 by way of line 40. By way of the control block 42, an electric actuator in the float valve 18 can be activated via the electric lines 44. By means of the electric actuator, a connection between the operating vent lines 24, 26, and 28 and the fill vent line 16 can be closed or opened